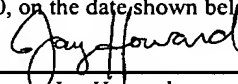


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Joseph R. Nicolaisen  
Date Filed: December 4, 2003  
Title: **SYSTEM, METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
OPTIMIZING POWER DELIVERY AND SIGNAL  
ROUTING IN PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARD  
DESIGN**

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail No. **EV352386185US** addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

  
Jay Howard

December 4, 2003  
Date

Dear Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Applicant respectfully requests, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, that the references listed on the attached PTO-1449 form be considered and cited in the examination of the above-identified application. Since the present Application was filed after June 30, 2003, a copy of any U.S. Patent and any U.S. Patent Application Publication cited on the attached PTO Form 1449 are not being submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to the July 11, 2003 waiver of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(A)(2)(i) by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Furthermore, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97(g) and (h), no representation is made that these references are material to the patentability of the present application.

Applicants believe no fees are due for this Information Disclosure Statement, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees to Deposit Account No. 02-0383 of Baker Botts L.L.P. in order to effectuate this filing.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.  
Attorneys for Applicants

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. A. Dietzel", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian A. Dietzel  
Reg. No. 44,656

Date: December 4, 2003

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|--|---|---|-------------|--|-----------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>PTO-1449</b><br><br><b>Information Disclosure Citation<br/>in an Application</b>  |   |   |             | Application No.                                |                 | Applicant(s)                  |                    |
|  |   |   |             | unknown  |                 | Nicolaisen                    |                    |
|  |   |   |             | Docket Number<br><br>016295.1508<br>(DC-05570) |                 | Group Art Unit<br><br>Unknown |                    |
| <b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>   |   |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  |   | <b>DOCUMENT NO.</b>   | <b>DATE</b> | <b>NAME</b>                                    | <b>CLASS</b>    | <b>SUBCLASS</b>               | <b>FILING DATE</b> |
|  | A | 6541711   | 4/1/03      | Dube et al.                                    | 174             | 261                           | 5/22/00            |
|  | B |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  | C |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  | D |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  | E |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  | F |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  | G |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  | H |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  | I |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  | J |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  | K |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  | L |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  | M |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
| <b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>  |   |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  |   | <b>DOCUMENT NO.</b>   | <b>DATE</b> | <b>COUNTRY</b>                                 | <b>CLASS</b>    | <b>SUBCLASS</b>               | <b>TRANSLATION</b> |
|  |   |   |             |  |                 |                               | YES NO             |
|  | N |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  | O |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  | P |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
| <b>NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>  |   |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  |   | <b>DOCUMENT (Including Author Title Source and Pertinent Pages)</b> |             |  |                 |                               | <b>DATE</b>        |
|  | Q |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  | R |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  | S |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  | T |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
|  | U |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |
| EXAMINER   |   |   |             |  | DATE CONSIDERED |                               |                    |
| EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant. |   |   |             |  |                 |                               |                    |